

Dairy

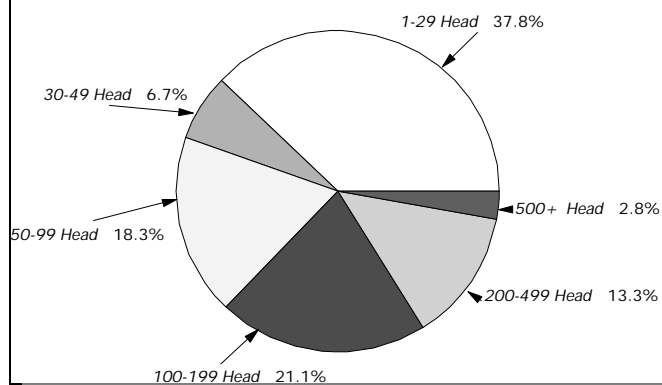
Milk production in Utah reached 1.51 billion pounds in 1998, 2 percent lower than 1997. Production per cow, at 16,811 pounds, decreased 112 pounds from the previous year. The 1998 milkfat per cow was 610 pounds, 1 pound more than the 1997 average.

There were an estimated 900 farms with one or more milk cows during 1998, the same as 1997. The breakdown of dairy farms by herd size was as follows: 340 farms with 1 to 29 head, 60 farms with 30 to 49 head, 165 farms with 50 to 99 head, 190 farms with 100 to 199 head, 120 farms with 200 to 499 head, and 25 farms with 500 or more cows. The largest percent of the Utah milk cow inventory fell in the 200 to 499 head which accounted for 37 percent. The herd size with the second largest percent of inventory was the 100 to 199 size group with 26 percent. The 340 farms in the 1 to 29 head category accounted for only 1.5 percent.

Cash receipts from milk marketings during the year totaled \$229 million, an increase of 17 percent compared with 1997. The average price per hundredweight of all milk was \$15.22 compared with \$12.88 received the previous year.

Utah's 1998 total cheese production excluding cottage cheese was 63.3 million pounds, slightly down from the previous year. American cheese, at 30.1 million pounds, increased 1.0 percent from the 1997 level. Cheddar cheese accounted for 63 percent of the total American cheese produced. Production of Swiss cheese totaled 25.0 million pounds, a 7 percent increase from 1997. Swiss cheese accounted for 39 percent of the total cheese produced. Other types of cheese accounted for the remainder of the cheese produced. Hard ice cream production, at 10.9 million gallons, was 4 percent above 1997. There were 21 dairy plants in Utah that produced one or more dairy products in 1998, the same as 1997.

**Milk Cows, Percent of Operations
by Herd Size Group, Utah, 1998**



**Milk Cows, Percent of Inventory
by Herd Size Group, Utah, 1998**

